

RECYCLING NEWS

Bureau of Waste
Management
Wisconsin
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

* Spring 2000 *

Legislature Launches Audit of Recycling Program

By Susan Hundt Bergan, DNR

On February 15, 2000, the Joint Legislative Audit Committee approved a request for an audit of the state's recycling program. The audit was requested by Representative David Ward of Fort Atkinson.

In his request to the committee, Rep. Ward identified a number of questions and concerns he wished the audit to address:

- **★** How many separated recyclables end up being landfilled?
- * Why there is such a large discrepancy in the costs of recycling programs from one community to the next? How do Wisconsin communities pay for the portion of recycling costs not covered by state grants?
- * To what extent are travel expenses, conference registrations, dues and subscriptions claimed as eligible grant expenses? Is there a relation-

- ship between a community's total expenditures for recycling, the amount of grant money received and the amount of waste recycled?
- * How do Wisconsin's state expenditures on recycling compare with other states?
- * How much do businesses and local governments spend on recycling?
- * Is the state recycling program effective? Are the numbers and purpose of state agency staff funded by the recycling fund appropriate and do their duties overlap?

The State Auditor provided a memo to the Committee that suggested the audit could evaluate the recycling program through the following approaches:

* A review of the types of costs claimed as grant eligible by responsible units, and how costs vary among communities;

- * The relationship between
 expenditures
 and the
 amount of
 waste recycled
 and the relationship between grant size and waste
 recycled;
- * An analysis of the number and types of state positions funded through the program, and whether overlap exists in these functions; and,
- * A comparison of Wisconsin's recycling expenditures to those of other states.

The Wisconsin Alliance of Cities spoke in support of an audit of local recycling programs that goes beyond a comparison of costs to examine causes of possible inefficiencies. The schedule of the audit process is not yet known.

State "Dumpster Diving" Law takes Effect February 1

By Susan Hundt Bergan from the February 2000 SHWEC Newsletter

Wisconsin Act 9, the state biennial budget, includes a provision to protect personally identifiable information that will greatly affect the way certain documents must be managed. As of February 1, 2000, certain businesses will need to be more careful about personal records and information that may be in the trash they discard. Authorities will also have additional penalties available for those who "dumpster dive" to retrieve and misuse such information. Examples of personal information subject to these penalties include medical records, bank statements and tax records.

Section 895.505, found on page 647 of Act 9, stems from concerns over "identity theft" and will impact specific

businesses that generate personal records as well as collectors and/or processors of scrap paper. This provision of state law prohibits financial institutions, medical businesses, tax preparation businesses, or their contracted agents from disposing of records containing personal information (medical conditions, financial data, credit application information, tax return information) unless the information is destroyed. The law includes a specific list of acceptable destruction actions, including shredding, erasing, or modification so that the information is not readable. Financial, medical, or tax preparation firms found to be in violation of the law's provisions are subject to a fine of up to \$1000, and those firms are liable for damages to a person who is impacted by improper disposal of their personal information.

Responsible Units Placed on Probation

By Jane Washburn, DNR

Five responsible units have been placed on probation for failure to submit their 1998 annual recycling reports to the DNR. Wisconsin law requires responsible units to establish and maintain an "effective" recycling program approved by the DNR in order to be eligible for a recycling grant and to legally dispose of waste in Wisconsin. One requirement of each responsible unit is providing an annual report on their recycling program to the DNR.

Annual recycling reports update the DNR and show that each responsible unit is complying with recycling laws and administrative codes. Responsible units that are placed on probation risk loosing their approved effective recycling program status if they do not meet the terms of probation. Loss of approved status would make them ineligible for a recycling grant. In addition, any waste generated from a business, residence, or municipality in those responsible units could not legally be disposed of in Wisconsin landfills or incinerators.

Responsible units placed on probation are required to submit their 1998 report. The five responsible units which have not complied as of mid-February are: Town of Clayton in Crawford County, Town of Eastman in Crawford County, Town of Chester in Dodge County, Town of Portland in Dodge County, and Town of White Oak Springs in Lafayette County.

Federal Universal Waste Lamp Rule Becomes Law.

By: Don Miller, Special Waste Team Leader. On July 6, 1999, the US EPA adopted a new universal waste category to 40 CFR Part 273, Code of Federal Regulations. Hazardous waste lamps are now regulated under the universal waste rule. Previously, lamps were subject to full regulation as hazardous wastes. The new rule allows hazardous waste fluorescent lamps and other hazardous waste lamps to be managed very similarly to universal waste thermostats or batteries. If you have specific questions on management of your lamps outside of Wisconsin, please refer to the Code of Federal Regulations.

Wisconsin has not yet added lamps into our universal waste rule, however. there is a provision in the federal rule that allows states to adopt their own reduced regulatory requirements for wastes that meet certain criteria for universal wastes. Several states, including Wisconsin, have developed guidance for lamp recycling under this authority. This new guidance, which will be released soon, will allow lamps in Wisconsin to be managed like other universal wastes, as outlined below. In the interim, recycle lamps by following the existing guidance developed by the Hazardous Waste Program.

Highlights and Changes for Management of Lamps as Universal Wastes:

- * The universal waste rule defines lamps as the bulb or tube portion of an electric lighting device.
- * The new rule does not cover lamps that are not yet wastes and lamps that are not hazardous wastes.
- * A <u>used</u> lamp becomes a waste on the date it is discarded; an <u>unused</u> lamp becomes a waste on the date the handler decides to discard it.
- * Household lamps and waste lamps generated by federally exempt hazardous waste generators may be managed by handlers as universal wastes.
- * The requirements for small quantity handlers (5000 kilograms and under) and large quantity handlers (over 5000 kg) are essentially the

same as for other universal wastes. The 5000 kg. applies to the total of all universal wastes managed at the facility, not for each separate one. Small handler requirements are given in 40 CFR Part 273 subpart B and large handler requirements in subpart C.

- * Universal waste lamps may not be crushed or broken by generators or handlers. This is important to remember, as there are various crushing systems available. Treatment may be allowed under the hazardous waste rules; however, if a universal waste generator or handler crushes lamps, the lamps cannot be managed as universal wastes.
- * Lamps must be managed in a way that will prevent breakage.
- * Lamp transporters must comply with all applicable Department of Transportation regulations; a hazardous waste manifest is not required for shipment.
- * Transporters storing universal wastes for more than 10 days become subject to all handler requirements.
- * Handlers, both large and small, can accumulate and store lamps not longer than one year.
- Generators and handlers do not need to count universal waste lamp generation as hazardous wastes on their hazardous waste annual report.
- * Lamps must be sent to a universal waste lamp handler or destination facility, or they become subject to full hazardous waste regulation. 40 CFR part 273.60 defines the requirements for destination facilities.

The Department will be issuing guidance soon that will allow hazardous waste lamps to be managed similarly to universal wastes in Wisconsin. We plan to incorporate lamps into the Wisconsin universal waste code in the future, dependent on other hazardous waste rule writing priorities. If you have questions regarding this article, please contact Don Miller at 715/365-8980 or milled@dnr.state.wi.us.

The Great Carpet Project

By Tom Eggert, DNR

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WiDNR), the Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance (MnOEA), the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (Ia DNR), Recycle Iowa and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have formed a partnership to explore ways to increase the recovery and recycling of carpet in the upper Midwest. The partnership has identified carpet as a priority material for recovery from the waste stream and as a strong candidate for attention under a product stewardship framework.

Because waste generation is increasing and the options for carpet recycling are limited, discarded carpet presents a waste management challenge. The WiDNR, Ia DNR/Recycle Iowa, MnOEA and U.S. EPA are very interested in keeping carpet out of the waste stream and increasing recycling at the end-of-life of the product. Preliminary estimates indicate that at least 70 million pounds of carpet are disposed in the upper Midwest annually.

While the generation of end-of-life carpet continues to present a challenge, the Midwest partnership recognizes that carpet manufacturers are actively seeking efficient solutions to reduce the life cycle impacts of their products. Many manufacturers and resin suppliers are becoming increasingly involved in carpet recycling, from creating markets for end-of-life carpet to incorporation of recycled content.

As the first step in the partnership, the WiDNR, MnOEA, IaDNR/Recycle Iowa and the U.S. EPA are convening a workgroup comprised of interested parties including resin manufacturers, carpet manufacturers, retailers, processors, representatives of suppliers and material end-markets, state and local governments, and environmental advocates. Catherine Wilt of the University of Tennessee will

facilitate the workgroup dialogues. The workgroup anticipates meeting several times, beginning in February and running through the summer.

In these meetings, the workgroup will consider many issues related to enhanced product stewardship for end-of-life carpet in the U.S. and specifically in the upper Midwest. These issues include:

- What carpet manufacturers can do to the design and composition of carpeting to improve recyclability?
- * What partnerships could be established that would enable recyclers of different carpet types to send materials they cannot recycle to other programs, thereby improving the economic viability of all programs?
- * What opportunities exist for municipal and state governments and non-government organizations to help carpet recycling efforts? What types of economic or policy incentives could be developed to assist the recycling of discarded carpet?
- * What specific steps should be taken to increase the recovery and recycling of carpet in the upper Midwest?
- * What opportunities exist to pursue a product stewardship approach to carpeting that minimizes the need for government financing?

The first meeting of this partner-ship was scheduled for February 2nd in Minneapolis. The second meeting is currently scheduled for March 22nd in La Crosse. The meetings are open to the public and anyone interested in the environmental impact of carpet production, use, and end-of-life management is welcome to attend the meetings as an observer. Please contact Tom Eggert at eggert@dnr.state.wi.us for additional information.

Tire Market Woes

By Mary Kohrell (Reprinted with permission from the February, 2000, SHWEC Newsletter)

The poor end-use market situation for used tires in Wisconsin continues to grow. DNR staff have been monitoring the situation and meeting internally to reach an agency position on the management of used tires for both the short and long-term future.



Tires were banned from Wisconsin landfills on January 1, 1995. Significant steps were taken to build an infrastructure for collecting, processing, and utilizing used tires in the state. The current problem is that the end-use market is unable to utilize all the tires being collected and processed in the state.

This problem is apparently due to two factors. The Waste Tire Removal and Recovery Program ended on June 30, 1997 and the subsidy of \$20/ton for energy recovery from waste tires is no longer available. As a result, a large number of companies that previously burned tires for energy have stopped. This is compounded by recently modified air emission regulations that make it increasingly difficult for facilities to use tires for energy recovery.

DNR staff recently visited tire processors that represent about 90% of the waste tire flow in the state. During these visits, DNR learned that many waste tire processors are exceeding their storage limits, with a few being significantly over their limits. While a number of Wisconsin's processors have attempted to develop other energy use and product markets, most processors still rely on in-state energy use markets. Processors in the state currently generate approximately 50,000 tons of tire fuel annually.

At this time, there is only one facility in Wisconsin that burns a significant quantity of tires. This facility has the capacity to burn about 80,000

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Computer Reuse and Recycling Faces its Next Phase

By Steve Brachman (Reprinted with permission from the February, 2000, SHWEC newsletter)

During a recent meeting of the Wisconsin Computer Reuse and Recycling workgroup, participants outlined the next phases for encouraging reuse and recycling in the state. The workgroup is coordinated by SHWEC in cooperation with the DNR. Recognizing the number of challenges that exist in both collection and marketing, the workgroup identified the following issues:

- * How great is the need for dealing with used household computers? (Current regulations only ban the landfilling of computers by businesses.)
- ★ Will mobile collection work?
- * What liability do municipalities that sponsor collection programs incur?
- Is there a need for an area-wide drop-off program in southeast Wisconsin and other regions?
- **★** What amount of a deposit is the public willing to pay to support

Tire Market Woes Continued

tons a year of processed tires. However, it currently consumes 20,000 to 25,000 tons a year from Wisconsin and surrounding states, because it is presently experiencing equipment problems that could cause unacceptable air emissions from burning tires, a problem which it is aggressively trying to resolve. A very recent DNR assessment of energy or other markets in adjacent states which might be available to Wisconsin processors indicates some strong potential energy outlets exist in Illinois, although at a higher tipping fee than Wisconsin processors currently pay.

DNR staff is trying to determine potential short and long-term solution options to the tire market problem. Some options being considered include pursuing other out-of-state energy recovery outlets; allowing the use of tires as daily landfill cover; lifting the landfill ban on tires; attempting to expand non-energy uses such as civil engineering applications and rubberized asphalt; and working with tire manufacturers.

collection programs, especially in light of the current regulations that allow residential disposal of used machines?

- ★ What distinguishes which machines are suitable for reuse and which must be recycled?
- Is the supply of plastic materials in Wisconsin adequate to encourage market development for plastic computer housings?
- What can be learned from Minnesota's computer reuse and recycling efforts?

The workgroup identified the following outreach steps, based on the issues listed above:

- Provide additional notification to businesses regarding the ban on disposal in landfills
- * Encourage the development of a retail notification system at the point of sale.
- * Increase school-based educational efforts and public service announcements, but only when an adequate collection and processing network has been established.
- Discourage company computer giveaway programs, which end up creating more waste for local governments.
- * Study European and Japanese manufacturers responsibility models to evaluate ways to increase recovery rates and build in the price of recovery as part of the cost of manufacturing the product.

Next steps for the Computer Reuse and Recycling workgroup include engaging in an industry dialog to identify common issues in education and design. The workgroup also identified the need to design a collection and processing infrastructure, develop a fact sheet on how to conduct one-day collection programs, and encourage local community development and maintenance of computer reuse and recycling resources. The next workgroup meeting will be held on May 10, 2000 in Madison. For more information contact Steve Brachman at 414/22-3160 or brachman@csd.uwm.edu. 🐔

Council on Recycling Recommendations On Used Oil Filter Recycling

By Dan Fields, DNR

In December of 1999 the Council on Recycling sent recommendations to the Legislature on ways to increase the recycling of used oil filters. The Council had been charged in 1997 Wisconsin Act 243 to report to the Legislature on the effectiveness of voluntary measures regarding recycling of used oil filters and to provide recommendations to increase used oil filter recycling in Wisconsin.

The Council's unanimous recommendations are to:

- * Establish by legislation, a Task Force or similar body attached to the Department of Commerce that would, within a year of being formed;
- * Develop baseline information as to the state of used oil filter recycling in Wisconsin:
- Use that information to establish goals for used oil filter recycling;
- Establish a Public/Private Partnership to develop and execute a plan of action. The Public/Private Partnership would have a mixture of public and private funding;
- * Set a deadline of two years after establishment of the Public/Private Partnership for meeting those goals;
- * Institute a statewide ban on the disposal of used oil filters by generators if the goals are not met by the deadline; and,
- * Require quarterly updates by the Public/Private Partnership to the Council on Recycling.

The Council developed a tentative timetable, based on an assumption that the legislation would be passed in early 2000. The Council's timetable would have the Department of Commerce Task Force begin work by July 1, 2000 and finish by July 1, 2001. The Private Public Partnership would begin by Continued on Page 5

Wisconsin Community Mercury Reduction Programs

By Randy Case, Mercury Outreach Coordinator, DNR

Why focus on mercury? Because this widely used liquid metal is a potent neurotoxin and is strongly bioaccumulative in the environment. Over 300 water bodies in Wisconsin are listed with fish consumption advisories for mercury. Every year additional testing add water bodies to the list and none have ever been removed. Similar stories across the U.S. have moved mercury to the top of every resource agency's action list, including the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. DNR is working on several critical aspects of the mercury issue, including environmental research, policy, legislative development, and mercury source reduction activities. It is mercury source reduction, however, that is proving to be the most straightforward solution to this increasingly serious

People want to be part of the solution! For many, a hand-on <u>community</u> program is the most gratifying way to do something positive for the environment. The Wisconsin Community Mercury Reduction Program is an important example of a DNR/community source reduction partnership. Eight Wisconsin communities: Appleton, Green Bay, Kenosha, Madison,

Council on Recycling Continued

January 1, 2002 and finish by January 1, 2004. If the Task Force goals are not met voluntarily by that date, a ban on the disposal of used oil filters by generators would go into effect on July 1, 2004.

The Council also recommended that:

- * An indemnification fund be established to repay the cost of disposal for used oil filters that are contaminated in such a way as to make them unfit for recycling;
- * The Public/Private Partnership be given a charge to develop, plan and execute an educational program aimed at all generators of used oil filters.

For more information, or a copy of the report please contact Dan Fields at 608/266-5334 or fielddb@dnr.state.wi.us.

Marinette, Milwaukee, Racine, and Superior are actively involved. The objective of this program is threefold:

- * To foster the use of non-mercury alternatives, such as digital thermometers;
- * To promote recycling of mercurycontaining products that continue to be used, such as fluorescent lamps; and,
- * To reduce the potential for mercury spills and the huge potential cost of spill cleanup.

This program identifies mercury uses within the local community. It educates the various mercury-users about alternative products, as well as mercury product recycling. It provides for program monitoring and it promotes mercury reduction success. All of these activities are carried out in partnerships between the technical, outreach, and public service partners within a given community. The program depends on

public education and partnership, rather than regulation and compliance mandates, and, it doesn't focus separately on mercury releases to the water, air, or solid waste stream.

In 1998, the first full year of this pilot program, over 5,000 pounds of liquid mercury were collected and recycled! The program was so popular that these eight communities applied for, and received, a Waste Reduction and Recycling Demonstration Grant. This grant will provide free, or low cost, recycling of mercury-containing products beginning in September 1999 and continuing until December 31, 2000. During this time period, medical and dental facilities, educational institutions, some businesses, and individuals can bring mercurycontaining products (except fluorescent lamps) to designated collection centers for mercury recycling. Check with these coordinators for specifics:

Green Bay Kenosha	Shane Brooks Dan Busch Bruce Rabe Jeff Mayou	920/438-1039 414/653-4335
	Ralph Erickson	
	Nora Erlandson	
Superior	Diane Thompson	. 715/394-0392, ext. 131

Questions about Wisconsin Community Mercury Reduction programs can be addressed to Randy Case, 608/267-7639 or casec@dnr.state.wi.us.

NAPCOR

The National Association for PET Container Resources (NAPCOR), the trade association for the manufacturers of PET plastic resins and containers, and suppliers to the PET industry in the United States and Canada, is requesting proposals for its 2000 grant cycle.

The two key PET recycling objectives for the projects to be funded under this grant solicitation are:

1. Increase the collection and recycling of immediate consumption (20 oz. and smaller) PET plastic containers, including soft drink, water, sports drinks, teas, juices, milk, etc.

 Increase the residential curbside or drop-off collection of custom (nonbeverage) PET bottles and jars, including shampoo, salad dressings, cooking oil, peanut butter, cosmetics, mouthwash, liquid soaps, household cleaners, etc.

Interested parties are encouraged to contact Tim Warren, Central Regional Director at NAPCOR, at 636/273-4191 or twarren@napcor.com.

The complete request for proposals may also be reviewed on NAPCOR's web site at www.napcor.com.

March 2000 5

Midwest Extension Compost School Scheduled

By Mary Kohrell, SHWEC

Participants are invited to the Midwest Extension Composting School which will be held on June 5-9, 2000 at the University of Minnesota - St. Paul campus. The program will include a series of classroom lectures and extensive field training exercises with windrow composting systems. The school is designed for professional compost operators, compost producers, farm composters, municipal employees, Extension Educators, state and local regulators, and anyone interested in the science and management of compost.

Nationally known instructors will cover a variety of topics including: scientific concepts; feed stocks; handling and mixing; C:N ratios; pile structure; odor management; active composting parameters; marketing; economics; regulations; sampling; testing; and facility safety. The cost of this year's school is \$495 per person. It includes four and a half days of classroom instruction and fieldwork, coffee breaks, four lunches, one supper. and handout materials. An optional national certification exam is offered at no additional charge on Friday afternoon. Pre-registration is required. The registration deadline is May 18, 2000. Space is limited to the first 30 persons. For more information, contact Tom Halbach at 612-625-3135 or thalbach@soils.umn.edu. 🐔

Wee Recyclers: Gone but Not Forgotten.

By Joel Stone, DNR

Wee Recyclers, our very popular recycling program for day care, preschool, and Head Start facilities is out of print and will not be producing any more. Over the last six years, more than 10,000 sets of Wee Recyclers were distributed free in Wisconsin with almost 5.000 sets sold to out-of-state audiences. Almost every registered daycare facility received a copy and all licensed facilities were given the opportunity to get a set. All public libraries received a set of materials too. We still receive a few requests for the program, but not enough to justify reprinting all the materials.

We have other recycling education materials that are available on a first come, first serve basis and are eager to distribute them. They are:

- * Wee Recyclers activity guides, IE-143; however, we don't have the support materials to go with it, though teachers may borrow their local library's set.
- * Wee Recyclers stickers, IE-126, 24 stickers per page; you can order these for distribution to kids attending events that you are planning.
- * Recycling labels for containers, IE-118; each set has 13 different colored labels for recyclables and trash.

Please use the form at the back of this newsletter to order these publications.

More Ways to Learn About Composting

By Mary Kohrell, SHWEC

The Solid and Hazardous Waste Education Center (SHWEC) is making plans to hold it's 7th annual series of Master Composter Training Program workshops. A series of one-day workshops will be held in various Wisconsin communities in May. The purpose of these workshops is to train people who will do community outreach and education on home

composting methods, including backyard composting and vermicomposting.

Tentative plans are also being made to hold a one-day Wisconsin training program in June on municipal-scale leaf and yard-waste composting.

For further information on either of these opportunities, contact Mary Kohrell at 920-465-2707 or kohrellm@uwgb.edu.

List Serves

By John Reindl, Dane County Recycling Coordinator

For those of you that would like to join an email list of people from all over the world to discuss various recycling issues, there are two lists that are most prominent, GreenYes@earthsystems.org and Recycle@envirolink.org. Both are available for free and can be joined or dropped at will.

To learn how to subscribe to these lists, send a message with the single word of 'help' to the list administrator at: majordomo@earthsystems.org and listserv@envirolink.org

Both lists also have the past messages archived, with the GreenYes list especially convenient to search for specific topics.

This archive is located on the Internet at: http://www.grrn.org/greenyesarchives.html

The World of Waste on the Web

Department of Natural Resources http://www.dnr.state.wi.us

DNR's web site offers information to provide an understanding of the agency, natural resources and environmental regulations. You will find waste reduction, reuse and recycling information within a variety of programs. Just click on the Environmental Protection button and look under:

Continued on Page 7

Reminder: The payment schedule for the Recycling Grants to Responsible Units Program has changed. Responsible units will no longer receive partial payments in February and July. Instead, beginning with the 2000 grant year, the first and only payment (for 100% of the grant award) will be mailed to responsible unit grantees by June 1, 2000. (The final payment under the old schedule for the 1999 grant year will be mailed in the fall of 2000, based on the responsible unit's report of actual costs.)

The World of Waste on the Web Continued

Air to find information about burning of waste materials and appliance recycling.

Business Assistance to find information about projects/partnerships, such as WasteCap, Pollution Prevention, Mercury Thermostat Recycling, Auto Sector and publications.

Financial Assistance to find information about grants to responsible units and the demonstration grant program.

Waste to find information about markets directory, recycling contacts, publications and appropriate administrative codes and state statutes.

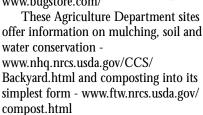
Also click on the Kid's stuff button, under EEK, to find waste reduction, reuse and recycling information for kids in grades 4 - 8.

SHWEC

http://www.uwex.edu/shwec/ The Solid and Hazardous Waste Education Center (SHWEC) has moved their web site to the address identified above.

Compost Sites

The Bug Store has the latest on beneficial insects to protect the garden. www.bugstore.com/



NAPCOR

The latest issue of PET projects, NAPCOR;s electronic newsletter, has been posted to the NAPCOR website. To view, type http://www.napcor.com/news/PET_Projects/pp_January2000.html

Other States

Minnesota is launching a statewide citizen education campaign focused on how individuals can prevent the creation of trash at home and at work. The web site is: http://www.moea.state.mn.us/campaign/index.html

University of Minnesota has developed a biodegradable plastic using protein from grains and starch from other plants. Check out this site for more info: http://www.rapra.net/bpsas.htm

Mark Your Calendar

March 77

Carpet Recycling/Recovery Partnership meeting, LaCrosse. For information contact Tom Eggert at eggert@dnr.state.wi.us

April 20

RCRA Refresher. Midway Motor Lodge, Highway 100, Milwaukee. Sponsored by the Federation of Environmental Technologists, Milwaukee Chapter Hazardous/Solid Waste Committee. For information contact FET at 262/644-0070 or fet@hnet.net.

April 27

High Performance Flexo: Printing with a Cleaner, Greener Image National Videoconference. Sponsored by UW-Extension, Printers' National Environmental Assistance Center and the Flexographic Technical Association. For details see http:// www.pneac.org/vc00/ or Kimberly Swanson at 608/262-0910.

Month of May

Wisconsin Master Composter Training Program Workshops, various WI locations. Sponsored by SHWEC. For information contact Mary Kohrell at 920/465-2707 or kohrellm@uwgb.edu.

May 10

Wisconsin Computer Reuse and Recycling Workgroup meeting, Madison. Sponsored by SHWEC and DNR. For information contact Steve Brachman at 414/227-3160 or brachman@uwm.edu.

May 17

Managing Your Hazardous Waste: What you Need to Know, Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District, 2231 N. Quincy St., Green Bay. Sponsored by the Federation of Environmental Technologists, Northeast Wisconsin Chapter. For information contact FET at 262/644-0070 or fet@hnet.net.

May 18

Council on Recycling. For more info contact Dan Fields at 608/ 266-5334 or fields@dnrstr



fielddb@dnr.state.wi.us.

June 5 - 9

Midwest Compost School sponsored by University of Minnesota, St. Paul. Sponsored by University of Minnesota and the University of Wisconsin Extension Programs. For more information contact Mary Kohrell at 920/465-2707 or Tom Halbach at 612/625-3135.

July 11

Council on Recycling. For more info contact Dan Fields at 608/266-5534 or fielddb@dnr.state.wi.us.

September 19

Council on Recycling. For more info contact Dan Fields at 608/266-5334 or fielddb@dnr.state.wi.us.

November 14

Council on Recycling. For more info contact Dan Fields at 608/266-5334 or fielddb@dnr.state.wi.us.

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The Department of Natural Resources is an equal opportunity employer functioning under an Affirmative Action plan. Copies of this document are available in alternative format by calling (608)267-7566.

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For More Information . . .

To order any of these publications, see the order form at the back of the newsletter. Please note that some publications are available electronically at our web site.

Household Thermostat Recycling: An Environmental Factsheet

Thermostats

(0-110)

switches may collectively be the largest source of mercury in Wisconsin homes and the second largest source of mercury in solid waste. This two-page fact sheet describes recycling options available to homeowners to keep mercury out of the environment. An electronic version is also available at http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/cea/publications/pubs/co_110.htm.

1999 Wisconsin Recycling Markets Directory

WA-089

This directory contains information on companies that collect, process or remanufacture over 220 recyclable and reusable materials. An electronic version is also available at http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/wm/publications.

A Tenant's Guide to Recycling Waste Reduction

CO-07A. CO-07B. CO-07C

This brochure explains tenant and landlord responsibilities and offer suggestions for reduction and reuse. Order CO-070a if you live in the southeast corner of the state; CO-070b in the rest of the state; and CO-070c for Spanish speaking tenants. An electronic version of CO-070b is also available at http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/wm/publications.

Special Events: Recycling & Waste Management

(0-071)

Many Wisconsin communities hold events that celebrate summer, natural resources or historical events. A well-planned event includes waste reduction and recycling programs. This briefing paper highlights ways to reduce waste and recycle at festivals and fairs. An electronic version is also available at http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/wm/publications.

Recycling and Beyond: Fun Stuff

(E-254

DNR has a new activity/ coloring book for pre-school through third grade youth. It replaces the very popular Nature Recyclers



Coloring Book. In Recycling and Beyond, kids can track recyclables as they complete the recycling loop, learn to sort recyclables and other items from the waste stream, make compost, reduce waste while shopping and conduct a home recycling survey. The booklets are available in units of 100. An electronic version is also available at http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eek/recycle/index.htm

A New Wiggle on Waste

(E-243

This Wisconsin Natural Resources magazine supplement introduces readers to simple vermicomposting methods. Meet some Wisconsin residents who wiggle away their household organic waste and learn how you can too. An electronic version is also available at: http://www.wnrmag.com; click on Best of Back Issues, click on vermicomposting.

Vermicomposting: A Teacher's Guide for Composting with Worms

(E-244

DNR and UW-Extension cooperatively produced this teaching guide on vermicomposting. It includes background materials, teaching activities and instructions on how to construct and maintain a worm composting system in school.

Yard Care: DO Your Share!

SW-073

This brochure introduces environmentally friendly yard care practices. It describes how to grow a healthy lawn without chemicals and where to use lawn clippings, leaves and mulch. An electronic version is also available at http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/wm/publications.

Home Composting: REAP a Heap of Benefits SW-072

This brochure is an introduction to the essentials of composting. The step-by-step format makes it perfect for beginners. The brochure provides instructions and diagrams for building four types of bins, a list of what yard materials can and should not be composted, how to start and maintain a heap, and how to use the finished product. An electronic version is also available at http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/wm/publications.

Home Composting: The Complete Composter SW-182

If you have mastered basic composting practices and are ready to try new challenges, this 23-page guide is for you. It contains detailed information for advanced composters such as how to compost food scraps, hot and cold composting systems, adding worms to a pile and troubleshooting tips.

Before You Mow - Did You Know? SW-159

This is a door hanger that can be distributed in your neighborhoods.

Publications – Spring 2000

The DNR provides free publications about a variety of waste reduction and recycling topics. If you would like copies of any of the publications summarized in the *Recycling News*, please provide the information requested below and then mail to DNR Recycling Publications by folding this sheet with the DNR return address facing out. Any information that you provide is for the sole use of sending the information you requested and providing assistance in determining printing quantities.

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& Recycling and Beyond	d: Fun Stuff, coloring book, CE-254	
🔇 A New Wiggle on Wa	aste, DNR magazine supplement, CE-243	
Vermicomposting: A Teach	her's Guide for Composting with Worms, CE-244	!
(\$\) Yard Care: Do Your S	Share!, brochure, SW-073	
Before You MowDid You	n Know?, hang tag, SW-159	
& Home Composting: R	Reap a Heap of Benefits, brochure, SW-072	
Home Composting: The C	Complete Composter, guide, SW-182	
Wee Recyclers Activity Gu	uides, IE-143	
<i>Wee Recyclers</i> stickers, IE-	-126	
Recycling labels for Cont	tainers, IE-118	
Several recycling publications are	e now available on the web. Check "For More Inf	formation" to find the appropriate site.
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